

GASTRO-RETENTIVE LEVODOPA DELIVERY FORM**ABSTRACT**

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Gastro-retentive dosage forms for prolonged delivery of levodopa and carbidopa-levodopa combinations are described. The dosage forms comprise a tablet containing the active ingredient and a gas-generating agent sealed within an expandable, hydrophilic, water-permeable and substantially gas-impermeable membrane. Upon contact with gastric fluid, the membrane expands as a result of the release of gas from the gas-generating agent in the tablet. The expanded membrane is retained in the stomach for a prolonged period of time up to 24 hours or more during which period the active ingredient is released from the tablet providing delivery of levodopa to the site of optimum absorption in the upper small intestine.